

USER GROUP MINUTES

Title: Lancaster Canal User Group Forum
Date: 5th April, 2006
Venue: MacDonald Tickled Trout Hotel, Preston

	<p>DL opened meeting and thanked everyone for attending. Presentations from Management Team covering Estates, Operations and Service topics</p> <p>Debbie Lumb commenced meeting by raising the issue of Lune Aqueduct. Cavities have been located in the structure following some routine maintenance work and the aqueduct will have to be closed whilst more investigation works are carried out. A notice will be issued for all customers the following day.</p> <p>Continuous cruising was discussed. BW no longer allows CC's on the Lancaster Canal although some have managed to have been granted permits on CC basis. NW team currently looking into the issues on the Lancaster Canal and will be producing an action plan to combat unauthorised cruising.</p> <p>Issues relating to Preston agreement were outlined. BW in the process of negotiating a new agreement or sourcing alternative methods of working the Ribble Link. All customers will be fully informed of any changes to passages.</p> <p>A new agreement is now in place with Preston Marina.</p> <p>Life ring with rope required at Tarleton. BW has this on order and it will be replaced as soon as possible.</p> <p>BW advise all that they require a fob key when bookings for the Ribble Link. This info is also included in the Ribble Link Skippers Guide.</p> <p>Moss Lane – toilets are closed. There have been some issues relating to the access pad which has been broken. This will be fixed within the next couple of weeks.</p>	<p>Actions / comments</p> <p>Works now completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p>
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	Request for a pump out facility at Garstang. BW does not have the resources available at this time to install a new pump out due to the lower level of services on other waterways	
	JT confirmed the return of the Lancaster Rangers and that Paul Johnson will be the new Team Leader, contactable on Mark Smiths old phone number. 07887 545389.	
	<p>Question & Answer Section</p> <p>Q How will the Lune stoppage affect Budgie Bikes? A. We will be contacting them to discuss in detail.</p> <p>Q. Issue was raised that the notice board at Tarleton may not be situated at the best location. Information may get missed by customers as a result. A. BW does not own much land in the area and therefore do not have many alternatives for this facility but will review best option.</p> <p>Q. Question was raised over the quality of the workmanship on the repairs to the bridge adjacent to Moons Bridge Marina. A Quality of the job was not what BW expects however, the structure is safe and therefore not considered a high priority for works.</p> <p>Q. Craft are sometimes sent out onto the River Ribble when the winds are too high. These people can get stranded and require rescue service. A. BW endeavour to ensure the weather and tides are sufficient for passage and always check before letting people leave Tarleton.</p> <p>Q. Queries relating to two way passages on the Ribble Link. A. BW has looked into alternative ways of running the link. We have concluded that the safest way of running the link is to have one way passages and only use suitable tides. In addition two way passages would require BW to increase the dedicated team for the link passages. Unfortunately BW does not have the resources available for this.</p>	TG
	DL concluded the meeting, date of Autumn meeting will be 18 th October at the NW Office in Wigan.	